SL.No.	State/District	Literacy rate		
		Persons	Males	Females
		2001	2001	2001
5	Mandi	75.86	86.67	65.36
6	Hamirpur	83.16	90.86	76.41
7	Una	81.09	88.49	73.85
8	Bilaspur	78.80	87.13	70.53
9	Solan	77.16	85.35	67.48
10	Sirmaur	70.85	79.73	60.93
11	Shimla	79.68	87.72	70.68
12	Kinnaur	N.A	N.A	N.A

Black-listed colleges of Kerala

4370. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the AICTE has black-listed any colleges in Kerala; and

(b) if so. the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

WIPRO Chairman's help for universal education

4371. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether WIPRO Chairman has come forward to help in achieving universal education;

(b) if so, his involvement in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) by when universal education and total literary would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) As per information received by us, Azim Premji Foundation, a non profit organisation has signed MoUs with Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to pursue the goal of Universalisation of Elementary Education. Azim Premji Foundation aims at :

(i) Providing access to all children , irrespective of caste, creed, socio-economic strata, gender or religion to the formal or alternate systems of education;

(ii) Ensuring that all children are enabled to actively participate in the learning process and removing impediments which hinder girls, SC/STs and children from economically deprived sections from full participation in the education process;

(iii) Enabling all children to achieve the basic pre-determined levels of learning.

The MoUs have been signed directly between the State Govts. and the Foundation.

(c) The Government has recently launched the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) - a National Programme for Universal Elementary Education to provide eight years of elementary education to all children in the 6-14 age group by 2010. The objectives of SSA are :

(i) All 6-14 age children in school/EGS centre/bridge course by 2003;

(ii) All children complete five year primary education by 2007 ;

(iii) All children complete eight years of schooling by 2010;

(iv) Focus on elementary education of satisfactory quality with emphasis on education for life;

(v) Bridge all gender and social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010;

(vi) Universal retention 2010.

The National Literacy Mission (NLM) aims at imparting functional literacy to 15-35 age group in order to achieve the threshold, sustainable level of 75 per cent literacy by 2005.